

HOUSE BILL No. 1204

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 16-39-4; IC 20-33-2-46; IC 33-37-10; IC 34-30-28.

Synopsis: Various education and school matters. Provides that if the parent, guardian, guardian ad litem, or court appointed special guardian of a child enrolled in a school requests a health care provider to disclose certain mental health information to the child's school, the health care provider shall provide the child's school the information. Prohibits a superintendent from excusing or excluding a student who was found to be mentally or physically unfit for school attendance if a physician, psychologist, or psychiatrist certifies that the student is fit for school attendance. Provides that the witness fee for an employee of a school district is \$100. Provides civil immunity for a school, school employee, or school board for civil damages that are the result of: (1) an injury to a child or family members of a child if the injury is the result of a student's health issue of which the parents or guardian of the student did not inform the school; or (2) referrals the school made or services the school offered concerning evaluations or treatment of the student's health.

Effective: July 1, 2014.

Huston

January 14, 2014, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.



Second Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2014)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2013 Regular Session and 2013 First Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1204

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 16-39-4-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this
3 section, "primary caregiver" means an individual who provides for the
4 physical, emotional, and social needs of another individual who cannot
5 provide for the other individual's own needs.
6 (b) Upon the written request of a patient's:
7 (1) spouse;
8 (2) parent if:
9 (A) the patient does not have a spouse; or
10 (B) the parent is the primary caregiver to the patient;
11 (3) adult child if the patient has neither a spouse nor a parent;
12 (4) sibling if the patient has neither a spouse, a parent, nor an
13 adult child; or
14 (5) guardian, guardian ad litem, or court appointed special
15 guardian;
16 who is involved in the planning, provision, and monitoring of mental



health services delivered to the patient and the written consent of the treating physician for the patient, the provider shall provide the individual described in subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), or (5) with the information described in section 3 of this chapter.

(c) Upon the written request of the parent, guardian, guardian ad litem, or court appointed special guardian who is involved in the planning, provision, and monitoring of the mental health of a child enrolled in a school, the provider shall provide the child's school principal with information described in section 3 of this chapter.

SECTION 2. IC 16-39-4-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]: Sec. 3. If a provider has received a written request under section 2 **2(b)** of this chapter, the provider shall provide **the following information to** the individual who made the request **or if the request is made under section 2(c) of this chapter, the patient's school principal: with the following information:**

- (1) A summary of the patient's diagnosis.
- (2) A summary of the information required to be given to the patient under IC 12-27-6-2 and IC 12-27-6-3.
- (3) The types of medication that have been prescribed for the patient.
- (4) A summary of the patient's prognosis.

If the information is provided after a request is made under section 2(c) of this chapter, the provider shall limit the information provided to information concerning the patient's mental health. The school principal shall keep the information the principal receives under this section confidential, and the principal may use and distribute the information only to the extent necessary to deal with matters concerning the patient's mental health.

SECTION 3. IC 20-33-2-46, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005, SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]: Sec. 46. (a) ~~With the approval of the state board,~~ **Except as provided in subsection (d),** a superintendent may exclude or excuse a student found mentally or physically unfit for school attendance. An exclusion or excuse under this section is valid only for the school year during which it is issued.

(b) A superintendent's action under this section must be in accordance with limitations and regulations established by the state board concerning the procedures and requirements for the complete examination of students.

(c) A student may not be compelled to undergo any examination or treatment under this chapter when the student's parent objects on



religious grounds, which consists of a good faith reliance on spiritual means or prayer for healing. The objection is not effective unless it is:

- (1) made in writing;
- (2) signed by the student's parent; and
- (3) delivered to the student's teacher or to the individual who might order an examination or treatment absent the objection.

A student may not be excluded under this section except as provided under IC 20-33-8.

(d) If a physician, psychologist, or psychiatrist certifies that a student is fit for school attendance, the superintendent may not exclude or excuse that student.

SECTION 4. IC 33-37-10-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]: Sec. 2. (a) **Except as provided in section 3.5 of this chapter**, a witness in a criminal action may receive a fee if the witness:

- (1) is summoned by the state;
 - (2) is named on the indictment or information; and
 - (3) testifies under oath to a material fact in aid of the prosecution.
- (b) A fee paid under subsection (a) is the sum of the following:
- (1) An amount for mileage at the mileage rate paid to state officers for each mile necessarily traveled to and from the court.
 - (2) For each day of attendance in court equal to:
 - (A) fifteen dollars (\$15) for witnesses subpoenaed under IC 35-37-5-4; or
 - (B) five dollars (\$5) for all other witnesses.

SECTION 5. IC 33-37-10-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2007, SECTION 222, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]: Sec. 3. **Except as provided in section 3.5 of this chapter**, a witness in an action listed in IC 33-37-4-2, IC 33-37-4-3, IC 33-37-4-4, IC 33-37-4-6, and IC 33-37-4-7 is entitled to the sum of the following:

- (1) An amount for mileage at the mileage rate paid to state officers for each mile necessarily traveled to and from the court.
- (2) Five dollars (\$5) for each day of attendance in court.

SECTION 6. IC 33-37-10-3.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]: **Sec. 3.5. A witness in any civil or criminal action who is employed by a school district (as defined in IC 36-1-2-17) is entitled to the sum of the following if the witness is called to testify on a regular school day of the school district that employs the witness:**

- (1) An amount for mileage at the mileage rate paid to state**



1 officers for each mile necessarily traveled to and from the
2 court.

3 **(2) One hundred dollars (\$100) for each day of attendance in**
4 **court.**

5 SECTION 7. IC 34-30-28 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
6 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
7 JULY 1, 2014]:

8 **Chapter 28. Immunity for Schools, School Employees, and**
9 **School Boards Concerning Student Health**

10 **Sec. 1. A school, school employee, or school board is not liable**
11 **for civil damages as a result of:**

12 **(1) an injury to a child or the family members of a child if the**
13 **injury is a result of a student's health issue, including a mental**
14 **health issue, of which the parents or guardian of the student**
15 **did not inform the school; or**

16 **(2) any referrals the school made or services the school**
17 **offered concerning evaluations or treatment of the student's**
18 **health, including mental health.**

